
PART II: EXISTING CONDITIONS

PART II: EXISTING CONDITIONS

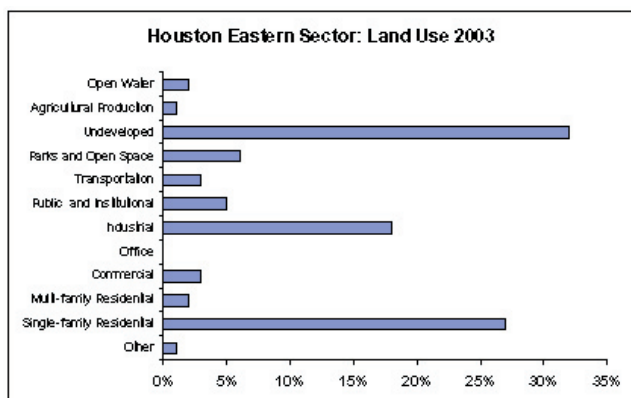
This chapter explores the potential for future development of the Eastern Sector of Houston through an assessment of existing conditions, needs and trends, and creates a framework for discussion of land use alternatives. This analysis is just the first step in the sector planning process.

Land Use and Development

Although the Eastern Sector has a slightly higher proportion of vacant and undeveloped land (32 percent) than the City as a whole (28 percent), the Sector is largely known for its high concentration of industrial uses (17% of total land area), particularly along the Houston Ship Channel. This is nearly two times the proportion of industrial land in the City as a whole. The northern part of the study area has a rural feel. At 29 percent, the proportion of residential land here is lower than in the city as a whole. Figure 1 below illustrates land use distribution among the various categories in the Eastern Sector and Figure 2 illustrates land use distribution for the entire City.

Between 1992 and 2003, the City issued 5,476 permits for new construction in the Eastern Sector. Thirty-seven percent of these were for residential uses, 28 percent were for public and institutional uses, 14 percent for industrial uses and 10 percent for commercial uses. During this period, the average value for the major land uses ranged from \$68,350 for single-family, \$724,033 for multi-family, \$1,167,942 for commercial/office, \$766,606 for

Figure 1. Houston Eastern Sector Land Use, 2003



Source: COHGIS

industrial and \$2,387,018 for institutional. Figure 3 shows the distribution of permits by value for the different uses during the period.

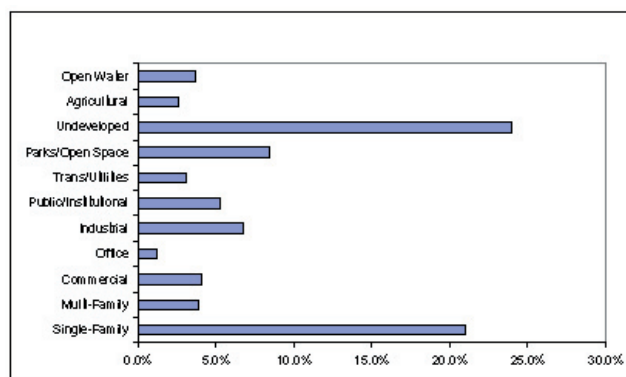
Undeveloped and Vacant Land

The proportion of undeveloped and vacant land (32 percent) in the Eastern Sector is slightly higher than in the City as a whole (28 percent). Most of the undeveloped parcels are residential infill lots located in neighborhoods. Twelve parcels are more than 100 acres each and are classified as agricultural, exempt and general commercial vacant land and are generally located toward the eastern city limits.

Residential Uses

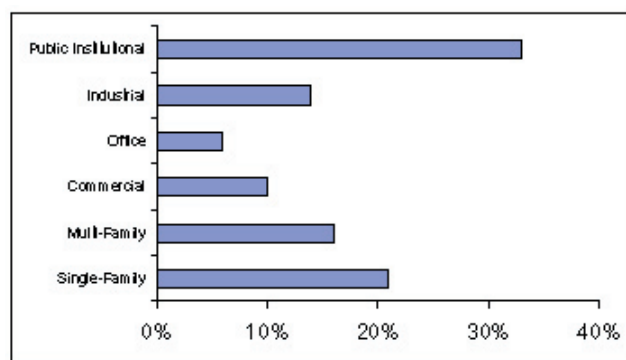
Residential uses account for 29 percent of the land and about half of this acreage is located north of Liberty Road. South of Liberty Road, residential uses are intermingled with primarily industrial uses.

Figure 2. Land Use City of Houston - 2003



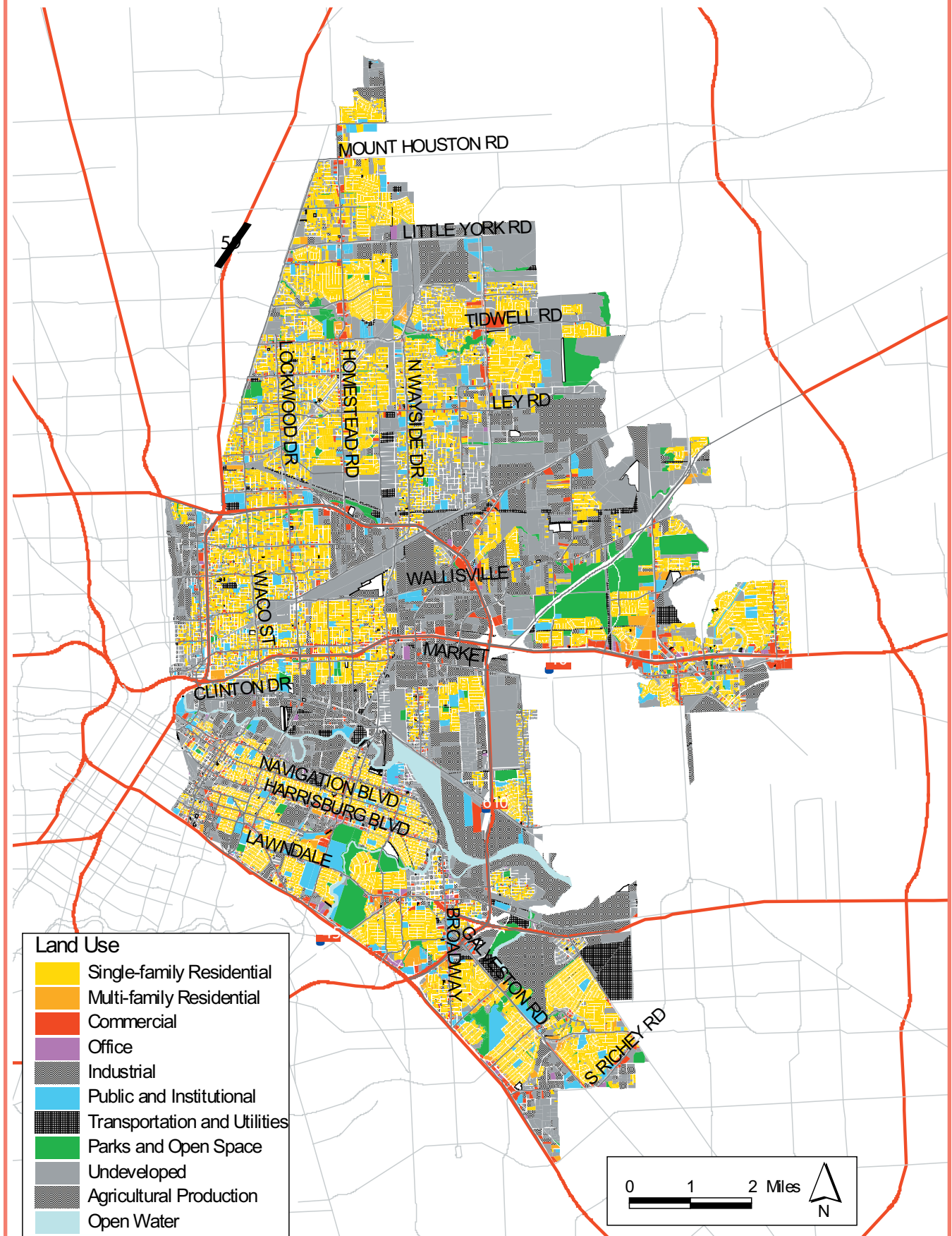
Source: COHGIS

Figure 3. Eastern Sector: New Building Space Permitted, 1999 - 2003



Source: City of Houston Building Permits

Map 3: Eastern Sector Study Area Land Use



Source: COHGIS

Single-family residential uses comprise 27 percent of the Study area, while in the City of Houston the equivalent figure is 25 percent. Multi-family residential uses comprise only 2 percent of the Study area compared to more than 5 percent citywide.

In general, small multi-family buildings are scattered in single-family areas, with concentrations at the eastern part of the sector north of Highway 10 and Maxey Rd.

Residential Trends

Between 1992 and 2003, some 3,200 residential building permits were issued in the Study area; 1,300 single family and 1,900 multi-family units. Although new single-family residential development was scattered throughout the area, it tended to concentrate in four points: 1) northeast of downtown between I-10 and Collingsworth; 2) north of Tidwell between North Wayside and Mesa; 3) east of Mesa and north of Little York; 4) along FM 526 and close to the Proposed Highway 90.

Demolition permits issued for single-family structures (over 3,000) were more than twice the number of permits issued for new single-family structures. About 63 percent of single-family demolitions were issued for buildings in the Inner Loop. Seventy multi-family buildings with more than 800 units in total were permitted for demolition and were scattered throughout the Sector.

Industrial Uses

Industrial uses cover 18 percent of the total land acreage in the Eastern Sector in comparison with 8 percent for the City. Slightly more than 9,100 acres of industrial land exist in the sector in approximately 2,340 parcels. The average size per parcel is about 3.9 acres, although 10 parcels are more than a hundred acres each. Five of these large parcels are petroleum refineries located primarily south of the Houston Ship Channel and one is located near the Loop between Wallisville and Liberty Roads. Other parcels are used for chemicals, manufacturing and prefabricated warehouses.

Trends in Industrial Land Uses

About 28 percent of the total square footage for new construction in the East Sector was permitted for industrial buildings, more than for any other kind of

new construction. A total of 137 buildings with more than 3 million square feet were permitted between 1992 and 2003. These building permits, including permits for warehousing and manufacturing facilities, were issued for projects located mainly south of Liberty Road, although the largest projects in terms of valuation and square footage were located between Ley Road and East Freeway. A hub of about 10 projects appears in the vicinity of Galveston and Winkler roads.

Since 1999, several industrial plats have been approved for subdivision. The largest, with nearly 135 acres of land is the Anheuser-Busch plant located on Market Street Road and Loop 610. The plant was built in 1989 and has undergone several expansions. About 14 other industrial subdivisions were platted in the area during the study period.

Parks and Open Space

In 2003, parks and open space covered six percent of the land in Eastern Houston compared with 10 percent for the City as a whole. This equates to 8.3 acres of neighborhood, community, regional and metro parks per 1,000 residents. This is one third of the 25.5 acres per 1,000 residents recommended in the City's Parks Master Plan.

The five largest parks in the Eastern Sector with more than 100 acres each include: Herman Brown Park in the vicinity of East US 90 Highway (902 acres); Brock Park at John Ralston Road in the northeast (355 acres); Gus Wortham Park on South Wayside Drive (161 acres); Glenbrook Park in the vicinity of Park Place Boulevard (150 acres); and Mason Park on 75th between Harrisburg Boulevard and Lawndale (102 acres). These are considered to be regional facilities.

Most of the undeveloped parks are located in the north and northeastern part of the Eastern Sector. The City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan of 1999 recommended acquisition of additional land throughout the sector to reduce the park space deficiency.

Public and Institutional Land Uses

Public and institutional land uses take up five percent of the Sector area equivalent to six percent for the city as a whole. They cover more than 2,500

acres of land and almost 1,600 parcels. These land uses include infrastructure facilities such as pump stations, water and wastewater treatment plants, schools, religious facilities, school stadiums, cultural facilities, hospitals and health centers, police and fire stations, and libraries are scattered throughout the large area.

Trends in Public and Institutional land uses

Between 1992 and 2003, more than 245 new public and institutional buildings were permitted for construction in the Eastern Sector, about 19 percent of all new square footage in the area. About 79 of these were schools or church related uses and 21 public infrastructure facilities. About 38 percent of this new construction was permitted in the Inner Loop, while a large number were permitted north of the Loop, between US 59 and Mesa Drive.

Commercial and Office Land Uses

In 2003, commercial and office land uses occupied 10 percent of the land in the Eastern Sector compared to 6 percent for the City of Houston. Almost 2,800 acres of commercial and office land in more than 3,500 parcels with an average of 0.8 acres per parcel were located in the area. The largest parcel is a golf club with more than 400 acres located in the city limits south of proposed US 90. Commercial and office uses tend to locate along major roads such as Harrisburg, Navigation, Lockwood and Wayside.

Trends in Commercial and Office Land Uses

Between 1992 and 2003, 380 new commercial and office buildings were permitted in the area, totaling over 2,000,000 square feet of building space. On average, these structures tended to be quite small with about 7,600 feet per unit. Many of these buildings permitted were located along major arteries, especially Harrisburg and Navigation Boulevards and their intersection with Wayside, East Freeway, Wallisville and McCarty Roads.

Legal Restrictions on the Use of Land

A number of legal considerations affect land use and other development decisions by placing limitations on new development or by enhancing development opportunities. Such considerations include air pollution mitigation measures, subsidence prevention regulations, neighborhood

deed restrictions and brownfields incentives. These controls are for the most part created to improve the quality of life in the area.

Air Pollution

The Study area encompasses the heart of the Houston petrochemical industry and port that emits the bulk of the region's air pollutants. Harris and seven surrounding counties are considered non-attainment areas under the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (42 United States Code). The EPA expects the Houston-Galveston Area, which includes the Eastern Sector, to attain the 1-hour ozone standard of 0.12 ppm (pounds per minute) by November 15, 2007.

Proposed industrial development in the area would also abide by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules. These restrictions include point source rules to reduce the amount of nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions into the air, how rules for handling volatile organic compounds are handled, and requirements for permitting emissions from shipyard facilities and construction activities. The TCEQ has air quality monitoring devices and stations positioned at strategic locations throughout the area.

Water Supply/Subsidence

Severe restrictions on ground water pumping have brought subsidence on the East Side to nearly a halt. Now, 90% of the water for use in the Study area, both potable and for industrial use must come from surface sources. Land subsidence is the loss of elevation of the land surface caused by the withdrawal of fluid. Before subsidence rules were put into place, years of excessive use of groundwater wells resulted in significant land subsidence and entire neighborhoods were permanently flooded and are now abandoned.

Deed Restrictions

Although at one time most of the single-family residences in the Study area had deed restrictions, many have lapsed and are no longer enforceable. Deed restrictions are written agreements with an average life of 25 to 30 years that restrict or limit

the use or activities that may take place on a property or in a subdivision. Today sections of newer subdivisions like Pecan Park have restrictions that are current and enforceable. Although the City provides limited service to resolve deed restriction issues, the enforcement of deed restrictions is left to the property owners living within a specific community.

Housing and Neighborhoods

Housing in the Study area in general is older than the city as a whole by 30 to 40 years. In the city, 56 percent of structures were built after 1970 and 85 percent after 1950. In the Eastern Sector, 11 percent of structures were built after 1970 and 40 percent after 1950. Thirty nine percent of the structures were built before World War II. The oldest are located south of the Buffalo Bayou.

Housing in the Study area is also generally in worse condition than in the City as a whole. Following the Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) rating of dwelling physical conditions relative to age and level of maintenance, only 7 percent of houses in the City are rated fair, poor, or unsound. In the Study area, that total is nearly 20 percent. The greatest proportion of dwellings in this category is found north of Liberty Road. Towards the south, housing conditions improve markedly. The greatest proportion of dwellings in very-good conditions is located south of Buffalo Bayou around Pleasantville and Lawndale/Wayside area. In other areas like Denver Harbor/Port Houston housing is mostly frame, less attractive and older.

Housing in the southern part of the Study area around East End is a blend of new brick and frame homes mostly in very good condition. Towards the northern part of the Study area, around East Little York and Trinity/Houston Gardens Super-Neighborhoods, the bulk of the homes are old frame needing much repair. Homes in the Denver Harbor, Pleasantville and Clinton Park Super-Neighborhoods are mostly old frame homes that are still in very good condition.

Significant developments east of downtown such as Minute Maid Park, Toyota Center, the expansion of the George R. Brown Convention Center and new Hilton Americas Convention Hotel have spurred development of high-end multi-family housing in the Study area east of downtown. Should the economy

keep its pace, this trend of new development and good housing would continue to grow into the Greater East End.

In general, home ownership declined throughout the Study area between 1990 and 2000. Owner occupancy generally increases with distance from the central city, with the exception of the western most area of the central sub-sector (Woodland Acres).

According to the Houston Neighborhood Market Drilldown, (an innovative methodology aimed at uncovering hidden economic potential in inner city neighborhoods) the central part of the Study area alone could easily support development of several thousand new residential units over the next 10 years. In summary, throughout the Eastern Sector the quality of housing is mixed; signs of new housing starts were identified alongside older structures in poorer condition.

Vacancy Rate

As with ownership rate, vacancy rates tend to increase with the neighborhood's age, which in most cases corresponds to proximity to Downtown. Also, as with owner-occupancy, the vacancy rate in the Study area dropped although there was an increase in total housing units. The Meadowbrook/Allendale Super-Neighborhood had the lowest vacancy rate at 4.9 percent compared to the rest of the City at 8.2 percent. Other Super-Neighborhoods with lower vacancy rates were Pecan Park, Pleasantville, and East Little York/Homestead at 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 percent respectively.

In contrast to these low rates, Downtown (27.4 percent), Clinton Park/Fidelity (15.2 percent), Greater Fifth Ward (13.3 percent) and Kashmere Area (12.0 percent) had vacancy rates that exceeded the City rate.

Population

According to the 2000 Census, the total population of the Study area was 273, 412, approximately 14% of the City's total. Also, population in the Eastern Sector grew 4% between 1990 and 2000 compared to a citywide growth rate of nearly 20%. The greater share of this population is concentrated in East Little

York/Homestead (22,140), Northshore (27,350), Greater Fifth Ward (22,211), and Magnolia Park (21,302). Population density in the area north of the Buffalo Bayou is 2.2 persons per acre. South of the Bayou the population density is 6.8 persons per acre.

The 2002 study, *Houston Neighborhood Market Drill Down*, used a variety of methods to calculate population that is easily missed by the Census (such as immigrants fearful of participating in the Census). Although the Study areas' boundaries do not exactly coincide, this information suggested that the population in the Eastern Sector may be as much as 23% higher than Census information would suggest.

The Eastern Sector experienced significant changes in Hispanic and White populations between 1990 and 2000. The Hispanic population increased 66.9% in the area north of the Bayou, comprising Super Neighborhoods 47 through 58. Conversely, the White population decreased 41.5%. Overall, Settegast had the greatest population loss.

South of the Bayou the Hispanic population also increased significantly, as well as the area comprising Super Neighborhoods 52 through 88 while the White and Black populations decreased. Lawndale/Eastwood experienced the largest population increase (6.8%) while Clinton Park/Fidelity experienced the largest population decrease (19.4%) from 1990-2000. The *Drill Down* study suggests that the population may be even more Hispanic than the census figures showed.

A majority of the population 25 years and older in the Eastern Sector have no high school diploma. In addition the area has the lowest percentage of persons with college degrees compared to the rest of the city.

Economic Conditions

In 2000, over 5,000 businesses were located in the Eastern Sector employing more than 114,970 people (US Census 2000). Sixty-two percent of these were located south of I-10. Wholesale, retail trade, and services have been the predominant types of industry making up over 60% of all businesses in the Sector in 2000. Professional services comprised

17% of all establishments and manufacturing 9% during the same year. One establishment employs over 11,000 people and four employ 1,000 or more. *Drill Down* data shows that as many as 2/3rds of all businesses in the Sector have been operating for more than 3 years.

The northern portion of the Eastern Sector is a mixture of almost rural residential, light industrial businesses, heavy trucking and warehousing activities, and landfills. Major thoroughfares in the area such as North Wayside, Homestead, Mesa, Ley and Tidwell have very few commercial land uses. The central and southern portions of the Study area are more densely populated and commercial corridors are more active. Heavy industrial uses associated with the petrochemical industry are also located here. While these large plants are growing, light industrial uses are beginning to move to the northwest and western edges of the city to take advantage of inexpensive land and better access to highways.

In 1999, The Greater East End Management District was created to provide services that enhance property values and spur new economic development. The District covers 16 square miles and represents more than 3,000 commercial property owners in the central portion of the Eastern Sector. Some of the services the District provides to commercial property owners include a Security Patrol, graffiti abatement, litter removal and access to workforce training for East End business employers through Houston Community College-Southwest and Texas A&M.

The *Houston Neighborhood Drill Down* study of 2002 uses a number of innovative methods to reveal a more robust economy in the area than Census numbers and other conventional methods indicate. The study includes, among other communities, the Greater Fifth Ward and Greater East End. For example in the Greater Fifth Ward, the *Drill Down* study revealed a market with a population of 45,400 compared with the Census 2000 finding 31,300 residents; a 45.1% differential. The differential accounted for 2,496 more households with active documented credit histories according to the *Drill Down* calculations. The *Drill Down* also revealed a market of 109,442 people compared with Census 2000 findings of 84,379 for the Greater East End

(includes Denver Harbor, Second Ward, Eastwood/Lawndale, Magnolia Park and Lawndale/Wayside). This hidden population represents unmeasured buying power. The importance of the cash economy in these areas further magnifies the often-unrecognized economic potential. The *Drill Down* study estimates that the cash economy contributes an additional 16% in income to the aggregate household income in these areas (above that measured by Census).

Infrastructure

Transportation

Overall, the Study area is fairly well connected in terms of major thoroughfares. Approximately 322 miles of major thoroughfares are listed in the Study area on the *2001 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan*. An additional 14 miles are designated as “To-Be-Acquired”. This means that, on the listed segments, additional right-of-way will need to be acquired as development takes place. These are largely in the northeast portion of the Study area. Fifty-nine miles are listed as “To-Be-Widened” and need additional right-of-way.

Wayside, Navigation, and Harrisburg all serve as major commercial corridors in the southern part of the Study area. Market Street is the primary commercial corridor in the central part of the Study area and Lockwood is an important corridor in the northern part of the Study area.

Two major roads are being proposed that could have a significant impact on future development in the Study area. The first is Beaumont Highway, which will extend from Beltway 8 to Loop 610 and will improve accessibility to the northeastern portion of the Study area. The second is the proposed Interstate 69 corridor providing alternate routes for truck traffic moving between Mexico into the United States. TxDOT is considering US 59 and/or Beltway 8 although other potential alignments for this corridor through/ around Houston are still being studied.

The area’s roads are generally free of heavy congestion. By length, 87% of roads in the Study area rate a Level of Service C (acceptable) or better.

Heavier traffic volumes are found inside Loop 610 on Harrisburg and Wayside. Windshield surveys show that many of the major roads providing access to industrial areas are quite deteriorated due to heavy truck traffic.

Transit

Metro serves the majority of the Study area; however, the relatively low density of the outer edges of the area makes high levels of connectivity difficult. Bus lines do extend throughout the Study area and link to major Port of Houston entrances. There are 7 transit centers located in the area: Magnolia, Kashmere, Fifth Ward/ Denver Harbor, Tidwell, Mesa, and Maxey Road. In late 2003, voters approved a plan to construct light rail in the Harrisburg corridor connecting to the Main Street Line. This could have a significant impact on future land uses and density south of Buffalo Bayou.

Transit dependency in the Eastern Sector is high. According to 2000 Census, 19 percent of the households (15,507) do not have access to a vehicle. In comparison, only 12 percent of the households for the entire City do not have access to a vehicle.

Bike Trails

A number of bikeway projects are currently under design: East Brays Bayou Trail, Houston Heritage, Columbia Tap, and Southeast Houston Trails. Others currently under construction are: CBD Access, Harrisburg/Sunset, and North Houston.

Heavy Rail

The Study area contains 80 miles (24% of total track length within the City) of heavy rail operated by 9 different rail companies. Most of the lines focus on providing access to the Port of Houston. Major companies include Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, Burlington Northern as well as several other smaller companies. Rail traffic in the area is significant, regularly blocking both automobile and pedestrian traffic.

Water, Wastewater, and Storm Water

One small residential area in the northern part of the Study area is without City water service and large areas of industrial and undeveloped land in the northeast portion of the Study area have limited

existing water infrastructure. Overall, the Study area has approximately 7.5 million feet of water lines, 17% of which are below 4 inches in diameter. Four inches is considered desirable for adequate water pressure related to fire protection. Existing surface water supplies (Lakes Conroe and Houston, San Jacinto River, Lake Livingston, and Trinity River System) are processed at the East Water Purification Plant (located outside Loop 610 near the Ship Channel on Federal Rd.), which serves the entire City.

Ten Wastewater Service areas are located in the Study area. All the wastewater service areas (but one) have capacity for additional development. The exception is the Northeast Wastewater Treatment Plant that has a projected shortfall in capacity. Expansion of this facility is currently underway and will increase capacity by 1.75 million gallons per day.

Relatively little storm water infrastructure is located north of I-10; most neighborhood drainage here is addressed through open ditches. South of I-10 most neighborhoods have enclosed drainage systems.

The Eastern Sector has a large watershed that drains into the Houston Ship Channel. The watershed includes Greens Bayou, Halls Bayou and Buffalo Bayous.

Environmental Conditions

Environmental issues vary throughout this Study area. Overall, it is a mixed-use community sprinkled with heavy industry. Oil and gas or petrochemical industries are more heavily concentrated in this area compared to the rest of the City. Significant industrial uses such as Type IV landfills (accept municipal solid waste), industrial waste sites, and numerous brownfields cause air, water, and noise pollution, limiting the types of development that can occur in the Study area and impacting environmental conditions in the region as a whole.

Fifteen industrial facilities in the Study area were identified from a list compiled by the TCEQ published in November 2000 as contributing high levels of pollutants to the region effecting the land air and water quality. Houston has been below EPA standards on air pollution because of high levels of particulate matter. Particulate matter contributes to

the creation of smog. Thirty-five permitted industrial waste generators are located in here and the impact on the surrounding residential community over a long-term period could be significant.

In addition, the area's bayous converge in the Eastern Sector providing the principal watershed and drainage for the entire city. Related factors such as the area's climate (proximity to the Gulf Coast), climate, high water table and inadequate drainage channels or water retention facilities makes the area prone to flooding that affects residential development. During Tropical Storm Allison of 2001, the area received a record high amount of rainfall (over 30 inches) within 12 hours that caused a lot of flooding.

Air Pollution

A concentration of heavy industry on Houston's East Side significantly impacts the region's air quality. With over 15 permitted industry facilities in the sector, maintaining a healthy air quality is a key concern.

The Eastern Sector has two stations on Polk and Clinton Roads to test particulate matter in the air. Air test results frequently show the air in the Study area exceed the EPA standard for "Healthy" (125 parts per billion).

Although the Eastern Sector has the bulk of the City's petrochemical industry, the impacts of air pollution to residential development cannot be considered worse than the City. Toxic emissions are hazardous to health. Eastern Houston, with its high potential for toxic emissions, may not be attractive to health related development. The Texas Commission for Environmental Quality standards for measuring air quality involves the entire Gulf Coast Region and not just a particular area in the City.

New regulations could hinder industrial development and heavy equipment operation in the area. Relaxed environmental regulations could also make new residential development less attractive.

Water Pollution

The most important waterways in the area, Buffalo Bayou-Ship Channel, Brays, Sims and Greens

Bayous, are heavily polluted because of the high concentration of industrial activity in the area. From Greens Bayou to US 59, water can be used only for industrial water supply and navigation. Fish consumption from this water segment is dangerous for human health because of high levels of mercury and dioxin found in the water samplings.

The continued operation and existence of petrochemical plants, industrial waste sites, landfills and brownfields are contributing factors to the overall environmental condition of the area. Thirty-five industrial waste generators have permits to operate and are monitored by the TCEQ. Eleven of these sites are located along the Houston Ship Channel and Sims Bayou.

The quality of potable water system in the area is good for consumption and industrial uses; however, there is great concern in the area about water contamination through leakage from petrochemical storage tanks than the rest of the City. The TCEQ has implemented the “Clean Rivers Program” to address bacteria found in the Buffalo Bayou watershed, and dioxins found in the Houston Ship Channel.

A sample of twelve industrial facilities from EPA database shows that in 1999 most of the chemical releases went to the air and in less degree to the watercourses. Some industrial facilities dispose of their hazardous waste in offsite landfills.

Brownfields

Brownfields are abandoned or under-used industrial or commercial properties with real or perceived environmental contamination. The City of Houston’s Brownfields Redevelopment Program provides funding for environmental testing of eligible sites. This is the first step toward making the properties safe for new development. Though the program has identified and confirmed three brownfield sites in the Eastern Sector since 2001, the area is laden with potential sites for brownfield redevelopments. Two of the sites have already been redeveloped and the third is in progress. Several potential brownfield sites are located along Broadway Boulevard, North Wayside Drive, Lockwood Drive and Homestead Road.

BFI operates two major active landfill facilities in the area. The 465 acre facility located on McCarty Road is type IV (accepts municipal solid waste) and operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. At current acceptance volumes, it has approximately 8 years left in operation. A by-product of this landfill is gas or nitrogen oxide.

Noise Levels

The current industrial condition in the surrounding area has existed harmoniously along with residential land use. Industrial noise levels in the area are moderate and closer to the industrial plants and the Houston Ship Channel.

Community Organizations and Services

Community organizations and institutions providing services within the eastern sector include super neighborhood councils, civic clubs, Management Districts, school districts, community colleges, private schools, public libraries, law enforcement and fire protection services.

Twenty super neighborhoods are located within the sector. Of these, 18 are located entirely within the eastern sector and two are partially located within the Study area. Thirteen of the super neighborhoods have recognized councils and super neighborhood action plans (SNAP). The primary focus of the SNAPs is capital improvement and neighborhood protection issues. Several of the SNAPs include items involving the construction of multi-purpose community centers. (See Table 1 for a complete list of super neighborhoods within the sector.)

Additional community organizations are engaged in projects to enhance the community. Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council is working on the beautification of SPARK Park at McDade Elementary School and Oaklawn/Fullerton Civic Association is involved in a street lighting installation and Rails-to-Trails construction. Other projects include a mixed-used development project near East Little York and Wayside, a multi-purpose community center near Parker and Homestead, providing a bus shelter for children at Tidwell and Mesa, and increased police protection to combat

illegal drugs and gang activity by the East Houston Super Neighborhood Council.

The school districts included in the Eastern Sector are Aldine ISD, Galena Park ISD, Houston ISD, and North Forest ISD. Seven private schools are located within the sector. Houston Community College operates two campuses, Eastside Center and Codwell Hall & Training Centers (Northeast campus). The total school enrollment from pre-kindergarten to the college level is over 64,000. (See Table 2 for a list of all educational facilities within the sector and the enrollment for each facility.)

Eleven Houston Public Libraries are located within the Eastern Sector. Seven are within the 610 Loop, three are outside the northern boundary of 610, and one is outside the eastern boundary of 610. Because of the high cost of library facility improvements, the Library Master Plan through a survey conducted by consultants concluded that there was a favorable

response to raising taxes and partnering with the private sector to support costly library capital improvements.

Public Safety

The Eastern Sector consists of 22 police beats. Of these, 18 beats are located entirely within the sector and four beats are partially located within the sector. The police substations located within the sector are East Patrol (Magnolia) and Northeast Patrol. Police storefronts are located on Lyons Avenue, Market Street, and Ripley House on Navigation Street.

The violent crime rate for the City of Houston was 1,123 per 100,000 people in 1998. Crime statistics show that violent crime offenses in the Eastern Sector decreased slightly from 1999 to 2000. In the Eastern Sector, the violent crime rate was 1,374 per 100,000 people in 1999. In 2000, the violent crime rate lowered to 1,292 per 100,000 people.

The Eastern Sector has 30 fire stations located within it or in close proximity to it.

The East End Management District operates an anti-graffiti program to remove or paint over graffiti on commercial properties. The Management District has a partnership with Baker Hughes' Central City Industrial Park Security Association, Inc. (CCIP) and Harris County Precinct 6 to provide additional law enforcement services to commercial property owners within the Greater East End.

Table 1: Super Neighborhood Councils

Number	Name	Recognized Council
47	East Little York/Homestead	Yes
48	Trinity/Houston Gardens	Yes
49	East Houston	Yes
50	Settegast	Yes
52	Kashmere Area	Yes
53	El Dorado/Oates Prairie	No
54	Hunterwood	No
55	Greater Fifth Ward	Yes
56	Denver Harbor/Port Houston	Yes
57	Pleasantville Area	Yes
58	Northshore	No
59	Clinton Park/Fidelity	Yes
63	Second Ward	No
64	Eastwood/Lawndale	Yes
65	Harrisburg/Manchester	Yes
70	Pecan Park	No
74	Park Place	No
75	Meadowbrook/Allendale	No
82	Magnolia Park	Yes
88	Lawndale/Wayside	Yes

Table 2: Educational Facilities

Educational Facility	Enrollment
Houston Community College	3,492
Aldine ISD	262
Galena Park ISD	2,349
Houston ISD	44,119
North Forest ISD	12,485
Private schools	1,343
Total	64,050